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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,106	01/11/2002	Li Mo	131105.1003	8105
32914	7590	10/13/2010	EXAMINER	
GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SECTION 3000 THANKSGIVING TOWER 1601 ELM ST DALLAS, TX 75201-4761				TSEGAYE, SABA
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2467				
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			10/13/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/044,106	MO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SABA TSEGAYE	2467	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2010.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-4,6-10,12-16 and 18-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 1-4,6-10,12,18 and 19 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 13-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 16 and 20 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 07/19/20. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16 and 18-20 are pending. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 18 and 19 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Squire et al. (US 7,139,838 B1) in view of Salama et al. (US 2009/0052457 A1).

Squire discloses a method for filtering and distributing routes to sites in a virtual private network, the routes being used by a router to forward packets (column 2, lines 50-67; column 3, lines 29-41), comprising:

receiving a plurality of routes each having a route distinguisher (ID), a rout target (destination address) and a next hop routing information (...point-to-point peering relationships used to exchange database information by using an appropriate header to the external peer...[Fig. 3, steps 128-130; 106-110; 112-114]; column 5, lines 5-15; column 4, lines 47-67);

accepting a first subset of the plurality of routes according to a predetermined policy (column 4, lines 53-64);

modifying a second subset of the plurality of routes; and distributing the modified route ([Fig. 3, steps 128-130; 106-110; 112-114]; column 5, lines 5-15; column 4, lines 47-67).

Squire further, discloses that network devices exchange sufficient routing information to construct a graph of domain connectivity so that routing loops may be prevented...column 4, lines 9-17). However, Squire does not expressly disclose modifying the next hop information.

Salama teaches a BGP speaker advertises a route to an external peer by updating the next-hop information (0116).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add a system that modify next hop information, such as that suggested by Salama, to the system of Squire in order to prevent routing loops.

Regarding claims 14 and 15, Squire discloses that if message passes through the policy filter, it is sent to the external peer, although its contents may be modified, Fig. 3, steps, 130, 114. Salama teaches a BGP speaker advertises a route to an external peer by updating the next-hop information (0116).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 18 and 19 are allowed.
4. Claims 16 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16 and 18-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SABA TSEGAYE whose telephone number is (571)272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pankaj Kumar can be reached on (571) 272-3011. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Saba Tsegaye
Examiner
Art Unit 2467

/S. T./
Examiner, Art Unit 2467
/Pankaj Kumar/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2467